



"INDEPENDENT IN ALL THINGS. NEUTRAL IN NONE."

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## HARRISON HAD A GUN

**He Used to Collect the Rents from Tough Harrisonian Tenants Before His Election.**

**And He Set a Splendid Example to Booze-Fighting Thugs by Showing His Revolver.**

**An Awful Confession for a Man to Make Who Aspires to the Presidency.**

**But One Thoroughly in Keeping with the Character and Reputation of the Present Mayor.**

**The Reign of Crime in Chicago Is the Worst that Has Ever Been Heard Of Here.**

The Yellow Kid is hypocritically howling about "people" carrying revolvers.

But it seems to have been an old habit of his own.

The Harrison family had a sweet lot of tenants in their day, before some of the property was sold to franchise seeking railroads.

The present Mayor used to be rent collector for the estate, and when he went to collect the rents he always carried a gun.

Here is what the Chicago American of Dec. 11 printed of what his Yellow Kidlets had to say on the subject:

"I always carried a revolver when I was acting as a real estate collector, years ago," the Mayor said. "Some times I carried as much as \$800 in collections, and there were men in the First Ward who would have been glad to cut a man's throat for \$10."

"One day I entered a saloon to collect the rent and was offered a \$100 bill by the bartender. Having no change, I rather rashly took out my 'roll' and made the change. You should have seen the eyes of the men in the saloon bulge. One husky fellow edged toward the door, intending probably to go out and wait for me down the street. This was south of Van Buren street."

"Seeing this, I remarked to the bartender: 'That's a pretty big roll to show, but I think I can take care of it with this.' I brought out a big revolver and walked out holding it in my hand. Nobody bothered me. When I carried a gun, my father was Mayor and gave me a permit."

The way that Alderman John Powers was treated by Mayor Harrison was shameful. Whenever Powers and O'Brien started a pool room or any gaming operation upstairs, the police molested them and annoyed the customers until they were forced out of business. Gambling houses were permitted to run wide open next door to them. Evidently, under this administration, no one can run a pool room or any other kind of a game who is not friendly to the Mayor.

The Grand Jury should call the following persons and find out what they know about policy, lottery, handbooks, and pool rooms in Chicago. Some of them might be able to tell how Mayor Harrison distributes his favors:

Patsy King,  
James O'Leary,  
Colonel Morton,  
Alderman John J. Connelley,  
Alderman Michael Kenna,  
"Red" Brennan,  
"Dutch" Smith and  
Harry Perry.

The "graft committee" will never call them. You can bet on that. The graft committee is afraid of its boss.

Have you bought your tickets of Bathhouse yet? If not, you cannot open up.

The Mayor ought to support Patsy King for President. He knows why.

Every prominent Anarchist who was not hanged in connection with the Hay-

market massacre of 1887, has been given a good job by the present Mayor.

By some strange freak of fate, or rather of his Yellow Kidlets, the Mayor, the police trial board, the one that passes upon the fortunes of our poor policemen, has two former red flag Socialists in its make-up.

In the last 24 years of municipal history there have been 16 years of Harrison rule in Chicago. The total shortage in the special assessment fund is only \$5,000,000.

We have had seven years of the Yellow Kid as Mayor and the traction question is further from settlement than ever.

Only 474 more days of Harrison.

We have as yet failed to hear of the Mayor giving a cent to the fund for the families of the murdered policemen.

The Eagle is going to get at the facts in this water business if it takes all summer.

A shortage of \$5,000,000, coupled with charges of misappropriation of funds and criminal mismanagement, in the Special Assessment Department of the municipal government, has been laid bare and proved by expert accountants as the result of two years of investigation.

A shortage of \$5,000,000—this is the indictment this careful investigation has lodged against this department in the City Hall.

The City of Chicago has wrongfully appropriated from its special assessment fund \$5,044,219. This money should have gone to taxpayers of Chicago as rebates, or represents overcharges levied when property was improved.

On Wednesday, Dec. 9, last, one of the principal members of the City Council Graft Committee, now engaged in rousting policemen in order to shield the big grafters, entered the Mayor's office to ask a favor. And what do you think he asked for? For the pardon of a thing from the Bridewell who had just been sent there in default of a \$20 fine for carrying concealed weapons.

Who is getting the money for "protection" to gamblers? Mayor Harrison ought to know.

Andrew Craig is being talked of as a Democratic Aldermanic possibility in the First Ward to succeed Bath House John this spring. "Andy" is solid with the Mayor and as he has always carried the primaries for Bath House, his friends think that he ought to carry them for himself.

Local leaders of the Prohibition party have got down to practical politics. A dozen State chairmen at a recent meeting in the Auditorium called for "practical stumps to do the talking," and declared for getting down to real campaign work. If they had only mentioned a few occasional hand outs and

the drinks on the side, the "prohibs" would have been right in line.

Senator Small, chairman of the Republican State Executive Committee, has prepared a call for the quadrennial love feast. The time and place are Jan. 13th, Springfield. There will be something doing at the time honored "gathering of the clans," but its location at the State Capital means much for Yates.

Hon. Charles S. Deneen's friends lost out in a contest as to gubernatorial candidates at the Chicago University last Tuesday. It seems that the lessons of the Eighteenth Ward election cases went for naught among Mr. Deneen's supporters.

The Ferris wheel has gone to St. Louis. As we are sending most of our debris to the city by the bridge, including the microbes via the drainage canal, why not send Harrison also.

There was genuine sorrow among the many friends of County Assessor Adam Wolf at the announcement Wednesday of his having sustained serious injury in a hunting trip. Mr. Wolf hurt himself while crawling through a barb wire fence, but fortunately medical attention promptly supplied has removed all danger of fatal results.

The Citizens' Association has started a movement for the federation of Chicago's moral improvement and reform organizations into an anti-crime crusade. Anything to take matters of the kind out of the hands of the present city administration.

How is it that the express companies have escaped legislative attention for so long a time? They are the biggest robbers doing business in the country to-day, besides being careless and inefficient. In Illinois they charge what they like and do as they like with the people.

All City Hall employees are to be tagged according to a recent edict of the City Council. This is as it should be. The citizens will be "on to them" now.

Dr. Arthur Reynolds has been reappointed to the office of Commissioner of Health. This is a tardy recognition of the valuable services of a worthy official.

The latest attempt of the leaders of anarchy in Chicago has been to "unionize" the Police and Fire Departments. We have heard nothing from the city administration on the subject as yet, but the people will have a



HON. JOHN P. HOPKINS,  
Chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee.

question or two to ask by and by. There should be no "walking delegate" instructing the flying squadron or the hook and ladder boys.

Hon. John P. Hopkins, chairman of the Democratic State Central Committee, has the confidence of the Democrats of Illinois, and will be triumphantly re-elected to the position which he has so well and capably filled. He is equipped by long experience for the management of the party. If there is any man in the State capable of bringing its affairs to a successful issue in the campaign of 1904, that man is Mr. Hopkins.

Fire Marshal Musham struck a timely blow against slavery when he knocked in the head the effort to tie up the members of the department in the shackles of unionism.

Chicago has secured the Republican national convention. It is a portent that Illinois will be the storm center in the next Presidential campaign.

Just think of what might happen if the Police Department were made an annex and auxiliary of the Federation of Labor!

When the Grand Jury gets down to indicting men who "travel" from the office of the Chief of Police, the average layman concludes that in the line of investigation things are beginning to get pretty warm.

The Citizens' Association is netting along the right lines in dealing with municipal graft. The public may expect some beneficial results from this particular line of work.

Judge Tuttle is now engaged in selecting a committee of twenty-five citizens whose work is to be the organization of a federation to act on the crime situation in Chicago. The crime situation has got to be a sort of standing institution in Chicago, and it is not to be wondered at that permanent organizations have to be formed to handle it.

Private Joe Eifer is a hard man to keep out of a job of some sort or other. He has just been appointed a member of the Interstate Commerce Commission.

The strike industry is being worked overtime in Chicago these days. It is a cold morning when we haven't at least one or two new ones announced through the morning papers.

It is to be hoped that Fire Chief Musham will not be allowed to suffer the loss of the \$400 in which amount

he has been fined under the Federal laws for the oversight of a small technicality. If the fine must be imposed the city ought to make it good.

Hon. William Best, the able and energetic South Park Commissioner, stands in the foremost ranks of Chicago's best citizens. Mr. Best, though engaged in an extensive business, has always found time to devote to the interests of the community. As a member of the South Park Board Mr. Best has done much for the public pleasure grounds and the interests of the residents of the South Side.

William Best was born in Canterbury, England, in 1811. He came to this country when 11 years old, and was educated in the public schools. In 1857 he started in life as an office boy in the wholesale tobacco house of John C. Partridge & Co., and from that worked his way up into a partnership in the business. At the death of Mr. Partridge in 1875 he became the head of the house and shortly after organized the firm of Best, Russell & Co., one of the largest concerns of its kind in Chicago. In 1883 Mr. Best was elected Collector of the South Town, a position which he accepted with reluctance and only at the earnest solicitation of his friends.

He filled the office of South Town Collector to the satisfaction of the people and with honor to himself. In 1885 Mr. Best was appointed South Park Commissioner, was elected president of the board in 1887, remaining in office until 1891. In September, 1886, he was practically nominated by acclamation for Sheriff of Cook County, but this honor he emphatically declined, his extensive business demanding his retirement from public affairs.

Mr. Best is a Democrat and has always been one of that party's foremost supporters. He is connected with a number of the most prominent clubs of the city and was a large stockholder in the World's Columbian Exposition.

Mr. Best's whole life has been that of an ideal citizen of Chicago.

What became of the \$1,500,000 appropriated by the City Council last February for cleaning the streets? Was it all spent to re-elect Harrison?

The Western Electric Company gets a great many hundred thousand dollars of the people's money. Is Mayor Harrison interested in the concern?

Municipal Ownership means the death knell of unions in connection with street railroads.

The poorest excuse for a chairman of the committee on finance that Chicago has ever had is Alderman Mayor. He ought to be asked to resign.

## CITY MONEY TO BYRNE!

**Or Rather, City Water, Worth Money, To Byrne's Fifty-fifth Street Power House.**

**The Records of the Department of Public Works Contain Some Very Interesting Facts.**

**The Harrison Gang Are Still Busily Engaged in Fighting the Hearst Presidential Boom.**

**Johnnie Powers Throws the "Con" into the Manager of the W. R. Hearst Forces.**

**A Red-Hot Fight Likely to Occur Over in the Eighth Congressional District.**

Ha! Ha!  
The mystery about Byrne and his water supply deepens.

The following official document from the official archives of the Department of Public Works, speaks for itself:

Subject 55th and Halsted sts. Water. Department of Public Works, Chicago.

F. W. Blocki, Commissioner.  
W. F. Brennan, Deputy Commissioner.

October 28, 1903.

Mr. H. O. Nourse, Superintendent of Water.

Dear Sir:

My attention has been called to the power plant in the rear of buildings located at 55th and Halsted streets, and a statement made that at times city water is used when the pump leading to the artesian well is out of order.

You will please have this connection to city water cut off, or, if the owner of the buildings desires to have said connection maintained, see that a meter is installed, so that when city water is used the amount will be registered. Also ascertain the amount of water that was used after meter was removed up to the present time and bill owner for said water used.

Yours truly,  
F. W. BLOCKI,  
Commissioner.

What sort of a Water Department have we, anyway?

Is it a Water Department that enforces the law against some and overlooks it with others?

One of the City Hall gang was very jubilant the other day in predicting the downfall of the presidential aspirations of William Randolph Hearst.

"We have got the Hearst gang checked," said this pup sucker, "Johnnie Powers was over to see A. M. Lawrence at the American office the other day and the way he shot the bull con into Lawrence was good. The way Johnnie tells it, Lawrence swallowed it whole. Johnnie says he is for Harrison now because he is going to run again for Alderman in the spring and because his constituents are kicking about loss of patronage. Harrison is for Williams. So is Johnnie Powers. Johnnie is for anything that Harrison wants. Harrison wants to see Hearst downed and Hearst will be downed. No man can be for Harrison and for Hearst at the same time. Harrison has promised Williams the Chicago delegation and I guess that he will deliver every man of them."

Harrison-Mahony-Ryan row. This is the way things size themselves up in the Eighth Congressional District.

Congressman Mahony is a candidate for re-election and will have the Eighteenth Ward solid to go in on. William Preston Harrison will have one precinct in the Fifteenth Ward, the support of Peter Klobbassa in the Sixteenth Ward, the support of John Powers in the Nineteenth Ward and of Alderman Dever and perhaps Hon. Joseph H. O'Donnell in the Seventeenth Ward. Timothy E. Ryan will fight for the Nineteenth Ward and will have the support of Alderman Stanley Kunz in the Sixteenth Ward and also part of the Seventeenth Ward. It promises to be a very interesting battle.

The great extravagance manifested

under the present city administration in the direction of electrical equipment does not mean that the Mayor is interested in the Western Electric Company, does it?

We fail to find anything in the written constitution of the County Democracy empowering our friend, Judge Tuttle, to call an election of officers for that body.

Robert M. Simon will be re-elected Recorder of Deeds of Cook County by a large majority. He has made a model official.

Municipal Ownership under Harrison means the discharge of all union men, the suppression of unions and the employment of Harrison thugs as no-men and conductors.

Illinois Democrats have the comforting assurance that the affairs of the party will be in the hands of able men in the campaign of 1904, and will not be dominated by the denizens of the "hall of graft." The real leaders of the party will be at the front this time.

An institution that is attracting many smiles and much attention just now from the nature of its appeals to business men for money, is the "Chicago Boys' Club," purporting to have its headquarters at 262 State street. It seems to be meeting with a pretty liberal response, as the subscription book mailed to this office purported to have \$1,500 subscribed to it already. With the subscription book is an appealing letter and attached to the same is a statement of the work of the club, to wit:

Scriptures distributed ..... 316  
Medical services rendered ..... 129  
Free baths given ..... 786  
Free lodgings given ..... 419  
Free meals given ..... 1,670  
Articles of clothing distributed ..... 149  
Friendly calls made ..... 598  
Tracts distributed ..... 27,451

It will be observed that the "tracts distributed," "scriptures distributed" and "friendly calls made" exceed the other good deeds done by a majority of 25,211. Tracts, scriptures and friendly calls, although not good to eat or to keep people warm, and not costing very much, ought to leave a comfortable balance for somebody after the annual appeal books and the checks accompanying them are gathered in.

The Chicago Real Estate Board has been heard in no uncertain terms in relation to the question of municipal ownership of street railways at the present time. In its report on the traction question, the Street Railway Committee of the Board had this to say at the annual meeting on Wednesday last: "To municipal ownership at this time we are unalterably opposed, and we coincide with the views expressed and the language credited to Rev. Father Edward Kelly, who said before the Council Transportation Committee that the following conditions must prevail before municipal ownership would be feasible, viz.: 'Ability of the city to buy and pay for the street railways and a high degree of municipal integrity.'"

Anybody who knows anything of the